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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/014,514	12/14/2001	Hoang-Yan Lin	3313-0441P-SP	3583

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EXAMINER

MAHONEY, CHRISTOPHER E

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2851

DATE MAILED: 06/18/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/014,514

Applicant(s)

LIN ET AL.

Examiner

Christopher E Mahoney

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 March 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 24 March 2003 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

The corrected or substitute drawings were received on March 24, 2003. The drawing changes are approved by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4, 6, and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Minoura (U.S. Patent No. 5,146,365). Minoura teaches a rear projection screen with a field lens made of a Fresnel lens 16a, which receives light from a reflective mirror 14, 15. A diffusive plate 16b is located on the output side of the Fresnel lens and is comprised of lenticular lenses. A diffuser 17 may be located on the input side of the field lens. The applicant is directed to review figures 1, 2, 5, 6, and 9 as well as col. 2, lines 40-64, col. 3, lines 16-65, and col. 4, lines 44-49. The diffuser may be a rough frosted surface or a fly eye lens.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Minoura (U.S. Patent No. 5,146,365). Minoura teaches the features of the claimed invention except for the Fresnel lens being smaller than 0.5 mm. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the Fresnel lens less than 0.5mm for the purpose of utilizing an optimum working value. The applicant should not that it has been held that where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the prior art, discovering the optimum or workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art. *In re Aller*, 105 USPQ 233.

Claims 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Minoura (U.S. Patent No. 5,146,365). Minoura teaches the features of the claimed invention except for the specific method of manufacturing. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize any method of manufacturing because the applicant does not disclose that the specific methods solve any problem or are for a particular purpose and it appears that any well known manufacturing method would work. The purpose of using methods of manufacturing such as UV curing, AB gluing, injection molding, press molding, etc. is to utilize readily available manufacturing processes/techniques. It makes

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manufacturing cost effective. The examiner also notes that the method of manufacture does not limit the specific structure of the claimed invention.

Claims 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Minoura (U.S. Patent No. 5,146,365) in view of Langille (U.S. Patent No. 5,837,346). Minoura teaches the features of the claimed invention except for the specific method of manufacturing Langille teaches in col. 3, line 60 and col. 4, line 2 that different methods of manufacturing were known. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the features as taught by Langille for the purpose of substituting one well known method of manufacture for another.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed March 24, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant argues that Minoura does not teach each element of claim 1. The field lens, Fresnel lens 16a, receives light from an outgoing surface of the reflection layer 15. The diffuser 17 is located on the field lens on the side of the reflective mirror to scatter beams from the reflective mirror and the multiple internal reflection beams inside the field lens.

The applicant then argues that, regarding claims 6-10 that the diffuser is integral with the field lens or is the surface of the field lens. 17 is the surface of field lens 16a. Furthermore, as stated above and in the previous Office Action, the *diffuser may be a fly eye lens*. This fly eye

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lens is best viewed in figure 9 of Minoura. The lenslets of the fly eye lens are the diffusing curves.

Conclusion


THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher E Mahoney whose telephone number is (703) 305-3475. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM-5PM, Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Russ Adams can be reached on (703) 308-1436. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-3431 for regular communications and (703) 305-3432 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.


CHRISTOPHER MAHONEY
PRIMARY EXAMINER